

DUBLIN DISTURBANCES COMMISSION.

REPORT

OF THE

DUBLIN DISTURBANCES COMMISSION

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



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DUBLIN CASTLE,

12th February, 1914

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, forwarding, for submission to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, the Report of the Vice Regal Commission appointed to inquire into certain disturbances and riots which took place in the City of Dublin in the months of August and September, 1913.

I am,

SIR,

YOUR obedient Servant,

J. B. DOUGHERTY.

The Secretary,

Vice Regal Commission—

Dublin Disturbances,

74, Pembroke Road.

WARRANT OF APPOINTMENT.

BY THE LORD LIEUTENANT GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR
OF IRELAND.

4BERDEEN.

Whereas in the months of August and September, 1913, during the existence of trades disputes in Dublin, certain disturbances and riots took place in that city :

And whereas allegations of the use of excessive and unnecessary force have been made against the police engaged in the suppression of these disturbances :

We do hereby authorise and direct you, Denis S. Henry, Esquire, and Samuel Lombard Brown, Esquire, two of his Majesty's counsel learned in the law, to hold an inquiry at Dublin aforesaid on the 5th January next and following days, to inquire into the origin and circumstances of the said riots and disturbances and into the allegations above-mentioned, and to hear and examine all such witnesses as shall appear before you, with reference to the matters aforesaid, and to report to us thereon :

And we do appoint Thos. Patton, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, your Secretary.

Given at His Majesty's Castle, at Dublin, this 19th day of December, 1913.

By His Excellency's Command;

B DOUGHERTY.

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DUBLIN DISTURBANCES COMMISSION.

REPORT.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOHN CAMPBELL, K.T.
LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

On the 19th of December, 1913, Your Excellency issued your Warrant to us whereby, after reciting that in the months of August and September, 1913, during the existence of trade disputes in Dublin, certain disturbances and riots took place in that City, and that allegations of the use of excessive and unnecessary force had been made against the police engaged in the suppression of these disturbances, Your Excellency authorized and directed us to hold an Inquiry at Dublin on the 5th of January then next, and following days, "and to inquire into the origin and circumstances of the said riots and disturbances, and into the allegations above mentioned, and to hear and examine all such witnesses as should appear before us with reference to the matters aforesaid, and to Report to Your Excellency thereon."

In obedience to Your Excellency's Warrant we opened the Inquiry in the Four Courts, in the City of Dublin, on Monday, the 5th of January, 1914, at the hour of 11 o'clock. The Warrant having been read in open Court by the Secretary, we explained the course we intended to take in the conduct of the Inquiry. Owing to the fact that our Warrant directed us to inquire into all the riots and disturbances which took place in August and September, we thought it more convenient that we should hear a statement from those representing the police of the dates and character of the various disturbances, especially as no one appeared in opposition to the police with reference to several of the incidents we were to inquire into. We would then hear the evidence of the police witnesses, and we explained that it would be open to any of the parties attending the Inquiry to cross-examine those witnesses, and to give evidence with reference to the various matters involved in the Inquiry. We also stated that we were prepared to examine any person who would transmit his name to our Secretary, and so far as possible during the Inquiry we gave every facility to members of the public who were desirous of giving evidence.

Mr. J. P. Powell, K.C., and the Hon. Cecil Atkinson (instructed by Mr. Gerald Byrne) appeared on behalf of the police, and Mr. Ignatius Rice, Solicitor to the Corporation of Dublin, appeared on behalf of the Housing Committee of the Corporation, with reference to certain charges made with reference to the conduct of the police on the 31st of August in certain buildings in the City which are the property of the Corporation.

Our Sittings closed on the 28th of January, 1914, having occupied eighteen days, during which 281 witnesses attended for the purpose of giving evidence. Of these witnesses 202 were members of either the Dublin Metropolitan Police or of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and 79 were civilians.

ORIGIN OF THE DISTURBANCES.

On the 30th and 31st of August, and 1st and 21st of September, 1913, fifteen separate and distinct riots took place in the City of Dublin. Of these five occurred on Saturday, the 30th of August; seven occurred on Sunday, the 31st of August; two occurred on Monday, the 1st of September, and one occurred on Sunday, the 21st of September.

We shall deal separately with the circumstances of each of these riots,* but before doing so it is necessary to report on their origin.

The year 1913 was a period of industrial unrest in Dublin. Between the end of January and the middle of August, 1913, no less than thirty strikes took place in the City, many of which were accompanied by actual violence and intimidation, resulting in prosecutions and convictions in some forty-five cases. On several occasions from the month of March, and particularly in the month of August, speeches containing direct incitements to violence were delivered at meetings of working men, and in many of these speeches, especially those delivered in the month of August, attacks were made upon the police. In the last week of August a strike occurred of a large number of the employees of the Dublin Tramway Company, but as some of the employees of the Company remained in their employment, it was possible, with the assistance of newly engaged hands, to continue a diminished service of the cars. In order to prevent the cars and their drivers and conductors from being attacked in the streets, it was necessary to obtain police protection, and for a considerable time a member or members of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, or of the Royal Irish Constabulary, accompanied each of the cars. The protection afforded to the Tramway Company in running their cars notwithstanding the strike created great resentment, not only against the Tramway Company, but against the police, and two of the earlier riots on Saturday, the 30th of August, and several of the riots on Sunday, the 31st of August, had their origin in organized attacks on tram-cars. All the other riots, with the exception of the riot in Sackville Street on Sunday, the 31st of August, with the origin of which we have dealt separately, had their origin in organized attacks on the police. Although all the riots were directly or indirectly the result of industrial disputes, they were not confined to working men, and in all of them the worst element was supplied by those who seldom or never work, and who may be described as the corner-boys and criminal class in the City.

It is a remarkable feature of the disturbances on which it is our duty to report that between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Sunday evening the 31st of August, serious rioting occurred in six widely separated districts in the City.

RIOT AT RINGSEND ON SATURDAY, 30TH AUGUST, 1913.

On the afternoon of Saturday, the 30th August, the first of the riots which we have investigated broke out in the district of Ringsend, near the City.

The Power Station of the Dublin Tramway Company is situated here, and it was in the neighbourhood of this building that disorder first showed itself.

Inspector Rannon of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, was in charge, and he was assisted by Inspector Chase, who was accompanied by a number of mounted troopers.

During the riot Inspector Chase was struck by a stone, and his horse was knocked down by members of the crowd. The tram cars were attacked, and when the police sought to protect them, they were received with a volley of stones, bottles, and other missiles, thrown not only from the street, but also from houses. Four members of the force were injured in the course of this riot, which lasted for an hour.

The efforts made by those responsible for the preservation of the peace did not involve the use of any unnecessary violence.

RIOT IN BRUNSWICK STREET, SATURDAY, THE 30TH AUGUST, 1913.

Later in the same afternoon another riot broke out in Great Brunswick Street, within the City. Superintendent Kiernan and Inspector Barrett were in charge of the district; and the immediate cause of the riot was an attack on a van the property of the *Independent Newspapers*, which was proceeding from Ringsend towards the City, under the escort of two constables. A crowd of about 250 persons assembled, and blocked the road. The horse was seized, and when the constables forming the escort attempted to protect the driver, they were struck with stones, one of them—Constable O'Callaghan—being knocked down, and kicked while on the ground.

The men who went to the assistance of these constables were assaulted and struck by stones and bottles, and in the case of some persons who were arrested numbers of stones were found in their pockets.

Men and women joined in the attack, and a prisoner who had been arrested, was rescued. The men in charge of the tram cars in the street were also assailed. During the continuance of this disturbance the street was a scene of great violence. The conduct of the police who were chiefly engaged was described in these words by a clergyman who was present:—"It is my distinct opinion that the five or six policemen (D.M.P. and R.I.C.) whom I saw subjected to these insults and violent conduct, behaved with

singular self-restraint, and in some cases with actual good humour. There was an absence of violence on their part, except in the last instance, when they only employed such force as was necessary to secure and retain their prisoners. Their behaviour was the only redeeming feature of what was for a Dublin citizen a really humiliating and disgusting spectacle." This statement, which will be found in the evidence of Sir John Ross, was forwarded by the Reverend Gentleman.

**RIOTS IN BERESFORD PLACE, TALBOT STREET, MARLBOROUGH STREET,
EARL STREET, EDEN QUAY, AND BURGH QUAY, SATURDAY,
30TH AUGUST, 1913.**

On the night of Saturday, the 30th August, violent rioting took place in the district comprising Beresford Place and the quays adjoining, Marlborough Street, Corporation Street, Talbot Street, and Earl Street.

Inspector Campbell, of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, was on duty in Beresford Place in charge of twenty men from about 7 p.m. They were stationed outside Liberty Hall, the Head Quarters of the Irish Transport Workers Union, and about 8 p.m. a crowd which had collected, began to boo and hiss the police, and become violent. The Inspector was struck on the face with a piece of glass, and a large number of his men were also struck. Reinforcements were called for, and Inspector Willoughby, with between twenty and thirty men, shortly afterwards came to the assistance of Inspector Campbell.

Before any charge was made on the crowd at least five constables had been injured, and when the crowd was dispersed by the police, they reassembled at different points from time to time.

The stone-throwing continued, and charges were made during the night along Eden Quay, across Butt Bridge, on Burgh Quay, and in Beresford Place. During part of the disturbance Superintendent Quinn was in charge of a party of men on Butt Bridge, and a number of his men were injured, at least one having to be removed to hospital. This constable, who was hit with a bottle on the head, was unable to return to duty for three weeks.

The riot in this locality went on for a long time, and while it lasted, the throwing of stones and bottles was almost continuous, and many injuries were inflicted.

We regret to say that as far as we can ascertain two deaths are attributable to injuries received as a result of baton charges which took place. At Eden Quay, a man called James Nolan, of 8, Spring Garden Street, North Strand, sustained a fracture of the skull, which resulted in his death at Jervis Street Hospital on the morning of Sunday, the 31st. The jury at the inquest found that death was caused by fracture of the skull, and compression of the brain. They also found that the injuries were caused by the blow of a baton, but that the evidence was too conflicting to say by whom the blow was administered. It was proved before us that before the baton charge in question took place, the crowd at the spot in question had been very disorderly, stones had been thrown, and it was quite obvious to any peaceable person that a riot was in progress for some time. No evidence was given before us as to the circumstances under which Nolan became a member of the crowd, but it was beyond all doubt a riotous one.

On the same night a labourer named John Byrne, residing at 4, Lower Gloucester Place, was treated at Jervis Street Hospital for a wound on his head. He died on the 4th September, and the jury at the inquest found that John Byrne died from fracture of the skull and hæmorrhage. They further found that they had no evidence to show how the deceased received his injuries.

No person gave evidence at the Inquest, or before us, as to the circumstances under which John Byrne sustained the injuries which resulted in his death, and the only account available was the statement made by him to his wife, that he had been struck with a baton at Burgh Quay. It was proved before us that a baton charge had taken place at Burgh Quay on Saturday night, and that the crowd against which this charge was directed was very disorderly and violent, and we have little doubt that in the course of this charge Byrne received the injury which led to his death.

We are of opinion that in the case of both these crowds their conduct towards the police clearly showed to any peaceable persons the danger that they ran by remaining members of them.

Later on on the same night riotous crowds assembled in Marlborough Street Talbot Street, and Earl Street, and damage was done in many instances to shops and houses. The rioters gathered at the corners of streets, and when charged by the police rushed away,

to re-assemble later on and again indulge in stone-throwing. In fact during the greater part of the night continuous disturbances existed in this area, and the force engaged were kept busy in dispersing crowds. Unless the officers in charge were prepared to abandon possession of the streets to rioters, they had no alternative but to give the orders to clear the various streets that they did.

THE RIOT IN SACKVILLE STREET ON SUNDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1913.

The immediate cause of the riot in Sackville Street on Sunday afternoon, the 31st of August, 1913, was the appearance of James Larkin outside the Imperial Hotel in Sackville Street, for the purpose of addressing a public meeting, which had been proclaimed by the Chief Magistrate of the City of Dublin. Larkin was arrested, and committed for trial on the 28th of August, 1913, and was admitted to bail on the same day. After his admission to bail Larkin publicly expressed his intention of holding a public meeting in Sackville Street on Sunday, the 31st of August. On the 29th of August a Proclamation, which was extensively posted and circulated in the City, was issued by the Chief Magistrate, prohibiting this meeting. On the evening of the 29th of August Larkin burned a copy of this Proclamation at a meeting in Beresford Place, and again expressed his intention of holding a meeting in Sackville Street on Sunday, the 31st of August. In these circumstances a warrant was issued for the re-arrest of Larkin, and it became necessary for the police authorities to take steps for the purpose of preventing and dispersing the meeting if an attempt were made to hold it in Sackville Street on the Sunday. The steps taken for this purpose were described to us in detail by Mr. W. V. Harrel, the Assistant Commissioner of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, and will be found in his evidence annexed to this Report. The length of Sackville Street is 616 yards, and its width from wall to wall a little over 50 yards; and it was not known in what part of the street the intended meeting would be held. In these circumstances it became necessary to make such arrangements as would ensure a sufficient force of police to prevent and disperse the meeting in whatever part of the street the attempt might be made to hold it, and at the same time to prevent any filling up of the street. With this object in view, Mr. Harrel met all the Superintendents at Head Quarters on Saturday, the 30th of August, and directed them to assemble at 11.30 a.m. on the Sunday in Sackville Street a force of police, which in fact consisted of 5 Superintendents, 9 Inspectors, 23 Sergeants, and 274 Constables, of whom 72 were members of the Royal Irish Constabulary; to instruct their officers and men that while persons were to be allowed to pass freely along the street about their lawful business, no assembly of persons was to be permitted; that the police were to advise persons to pass along, and not to remain about; that small parties of police consisting of a sergeant and a few constables were to move along the sections of the street allotted to each Superintendent to keep the people moving when necessary; that no organized bodies of people were to be allowed to enter the street at any point; and that James Larkin was to be arrested if he appeared. The Superintendents to whom these instructions were given are all men of long experience in the force, and they and the other officers of the Dublin Metropolitan Police who were in command of the various sections of the force in Sackville Street on Sunday, the 31st August, had frequent previous experience of dealing with crowds and meetings in that street, and were competent to deal with any emergency which might arise in their immediate neighbourhood. In accordance with these arrangements, which were subsequently communicated by Mr. Harrel to Sir John Ross, the Chief Commissioner of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, and approved of by him, the police took up their position in and about Sackville Street at 11.30 a.m. on the Sunday. The force was distributed in the following manner:—One division under Chief Superintendent Dunne, and consisting of Inspector Bannon, six sergeants and sixty-three constables, was stationed in sections at the south side of O'Connell Bridge, at the Ballast Office, and at the Independent Office at the corner of D'Olier Street. Another division under Superintendent Kiernan, and consisting of two Inspectors, five sergeants, and fifty constables, was stationed in three sections on the east side of Sackville Street between Eden Quay and the Pillar. A third division under Superintendent Flynn was stationed at the Bachelor's Walk side of O'Connell Bridge, and a fourth division, under Superintendent Murphy, was posted in sections, one near the corner of Middle Abbey Street, and the other at Prince's Street, near the office of the *Freesman's Journal*. A fifth division, under Superintendent Gordon, had charge of the west side of Upper Sackville Street, from Henry Street to the Rotunda; and a sixth division, under Inspector Willoughby, had charge of the east side of Upper Sackville Street, from Earl Street to Great Britain Street. Both Sir John Ross and Mr. Harrel arrived in Sackville Street about 1.30 p.m., when the rioting was almost over. They left the Head Quarters at the

Castle a few minutes before, without having received any summons, for the purpose of visiting Sackville Street, and as the disturbance actually broke out while they were on their way, they had no knowledge that an attempt had been made to hold a meeting. Recognizing the serious state of affairs in Sackville Street, they took immediate steps to summon a troop of Mounted Police, which had been kept in readiness.

Assume question has been raised whether on an occasion of this kind it would not have been more prudent for the Chief or the Assistant Commissioner to have taken personal command of the entire force in and about Sackville Street, we think it right to say that, in our opinion, a measure of that kind would have been ineffectual. Provision had to be made for the control of more than one-third of a mile of street of great width, and in which the view is obstructed by the Nelson Pillar and numerous statues; and the arrangement which was actually made, by which different parts of the street were placed in charge of Superintendents and Inspectors who had great experience in the management of crowds in this particular street, and who were responsible for the parts of the street of which they were placed in charge, was, in our opinion, a more prudent one than if one individual had been in command of the entire force, and his subordinate officers had had to look to him for orders when an emergency arose. We consider that the arrangements made for the disposition and control of the police in Sackville Street on Sunday, the 31st of August, were wise and effectual, and that the Superintendents, Inspectors, and Sergeants in command of the various sections of the force acted with prudence and skill in the very difficult circumstances in which they were placed.

Up to 12.30 on the Sunday the state of affairs was normal in Sackville Street; but from that hour the number of persons in the street increased rapidly until about 1.25 p.m., when there was a considerable though unformed crowd in the street, particularly in the neighbourhood of the General Post Office. About 1.25 p.m. Larkin appeared on the balcony of the Imperial Hotel, and appears to have uttered some words, and to have then retreated into the hotel. As soon as he was observed by the people in the street, there was a rush by a crowd, numbering 300 to 400, and waving hats and sticks, from the neighbourhood of the General Post Office towards the Imperial Hotel. In order to prevent the rush of this crowd on the hotel, Inspector McCaig with a Sergeant and ten men, who were stationed on the foot-way some distance to the south of the hotel door, doubled out into the carriage way; and simultaneously Sergeant Butler and five men executed a similar movement from the north side of the hotel. These combined movements had the effect of stopping the approaching crowd, who retreated in the direction of the General Post Office in considerable confusion. This result was produced without the use of batons by the police. This crowd re-formed in the direction of the General Post Office; and in the meantime Inspector McCaig and his party of police had been ordered to enter the Imperial Hotel for the purpose of effecting the arrest of Larkin, leaving Sergeant Butler and his men guarding the door of the hotel. As soon as the police were seen entering the hotel, there was a second rush by the crowd, which had greatly increased in numbers, from the direction of the General Post Office towards the Hotel. During this rush sticks were brandished, and a missile was thrown from the crowd, which broke a large plate glass window a few feet from the hotel door. Believing that the object of the crowd was to prevent the arrest of Larkin, the police who were guarding the door of the hotel drew their batons, with the result that the rush was stopped, and the crowd again retreated in the direction of the General Post Office, where they again seem to have reformed. In this instance also no batons were used by the police, and none of them came in contact with the crowd. A few moments later Larkin was removed from the hotel under arrest, and, guarded by an escort, was taken to College Street Police Station. As soon as Larkin appeared in the street under arrest a third rush was made by the crowd from the direction of the General Post Office and Prince's Street, diagonally across the street in the direction of the escort. Fearing that the object of the crowd, who were shouting, brandishing sticks, and throwing stones, was to rescue the prisoner, orders were given by Inspector Barrett and other responsible officers to the police to put back and disperse the crowd. In our opinion these orders, and the baton charge by which they were carried out, were justified by the circumstances. The crowd was dispersed by three bodies of police, numbering in all about fifty, who moved out into the street, one from the corner of Lower Abbey Street, another from O'Connell Bridge, and the third from the neighbourhood of the Metropole Hotel. These three bodies of police effectually prevented the crowd from approaching the escort which was guarding Larkin, and turned the crowd back—dispersing them in the direction of the Nelson Pillar and the General Post Office. In the course of the charge by means of which this crowd was dispersed batons were used by many of the police, and a number of civilians were knocked down in the rush-back along and across the street, some as the result of blows from batons,

and some as the result of collision with and tripping over each other. Owing to the width of Sackville Street, and the fact that the entrances to Middle Abbey Street, Henry Street, and North Red Street were left open, there was no hemming in of the crowd by the police, and, except for an unfortunate blocking of Prince's Street, there was nothing to prevent the crowd getting away in all directions up the street. Under the police arrangements which we have described, a force of one Inspector, two sergeants, and twenty men had been stationed earlier in the day near the junction of Prince's Street and Sackville Street; and owing to apprehended attacks upon premises in the occupation of the *Independent Newspapers Company*, an order had been given to one of the sergeants with nine men to prevent any crowd passing from Sackville Street through Prince's Street. For the purpose of carrying out this order, the sergeant and nine men to whom it was given were stationed near the office of the *Freeman's Journal*, where Prince's Street becomes a very narrow street, at some distance from the junction of Prince's Street with Sackville Street, and in a position from which it was difficult if not impossible to see the movements of crowds lower down in Sackville Street. During the dispersal in Sackville Street of the crowd which had followed the escort which was guarding Larkin, a large number of persons rushed round the corner of the Metropole Hotel into Prince's Street, cheering and throwing stones at the police in Prince's Street, many of whom were struck. In pursuance of the orders which they had received the sergeant and nine men who were stationed near the office of the *Freeman's Journal* prevented the crowd from going down Prince's Street, and turned them back towards Sackville Street, using their batons for the purpose. Having regard to the orders which he had received not to allow any crowd to pass down Prince's Street, the sergeant had no alternative but to turn back the crowd, and he and his men were justified in using all necessary force in doing so; and having regard to the numbers and violence of the crowd, the use of batons by this small body of police was necessary. Unfortunately this crowd, as it was being driven back out of Prince's Street, was met by another crowd rushing into Prince's Street and away from the police in Sackville Street, and the two crowds collided, filling up the entrance to Prince's Street, and becoming mixed up with the police who were near the corner of the Metropole hotel and the police who were putting the first crowd back out of Prince's Street. In the confusion caused by the collision of the two crowds, and in the effort by the police to prevent any crowd going down Prince's Street, a large number of people must have received injuries, not only from the pressure and struggle of the crowd, but also from the blows of batons. As frequently happens in incidents of the kind, there seem to have been several peaceable citizens swept into and along by the riotous mob; and we have no doubt that some of them were injured during the clearing of the street. In one regrettable instance, that of Mr O'Donnell, a respectable gentleman carrying on business in Lower Sackville Street received very severe injuries at the hands of the police. There were thirteen police injured during the course of this riot (including the sergeant and nine men who were stationed in Prince's Street—all of whom were injured in discharging their duty).

In dealing with the conduct of the police during this riot it must be borne in mind that the riot was a matter of a few minutes. All the incidents we have described from the appearance of Larkin on the balcony of the Imperial Hotel until quiet was restored in Prince's Street, took place within three or four minutes. So far as the movements of the police which turned and dispersed the crowd which was rushing in the direction of the escort are concerned, although batons were freely used, there is no evidence of the use of unnecessary or excessive force up to the moment of the collision of the two crowds at the entrance to Prince's Street. In the confusion of this moment there may have been, and we think that in isolated instances there was, the use of force which in fact was unnecessary. This was due to a misunderstanding on the part of the police who were stationed in Prince's Street as to the object of the second crowd which rushed into Prince's Street, and collided with the crowd which was being driven out of that street. It was in fact an accidental collision between the crowd which they were driving out of Prince's Street and a crowd which had been driven up and across Sackville Street from the direction of Larkin's escort. To the police it very naturally appeared to be a renewed and determined effort by a suddenly and greatly increased crowd to force a passage through Prince's Street, and they dealt with it accordingly. Any unnecessary or excessive force used by the police during the suppression of this riot was due to this misunderstanding.

As some suggestions have been made that the crowd in Sackville Street was driven into Prince's Street for the purpose of being caught and batoned there, we think it right to say that, in our opinion, there is no foundation for these suggestions.

As suggestions were made in cross-examination of the police that some members of the force were seen smoking, and that others of them were under the influence of drink, while on duty in Sackville Street on Sunday, the 31st August, 1913, we also think it right

to say that both these charges were indignantly denied by the police, that there is no evidence whatever to support either of them, and that they are without foundation.

At the hearing of the evidence in connection with this riot Mr. Handel Booth, M.P., attended, and asked to be heard in reply to the speech of Mr. Powell at the opening of the Inquiry. We expressed our desire that he should, in addition to being heard and giving his evidence, have an opportunity of cross-examining the various witnesses produced with reference to this particular riot. Mr. Handel Booth availed himself of this opportunity, and, amongst others, cross-examined Chief Superintendent Dunne, Superintendent Quinn, Superintendent Murphy, and Superintendent Kiernan, who were in charge of the various parties of police engaged in the dispersal of the crowds in Lower Sackville Street, and Inspector Lalor who was in charge of the two sergeants and twenty police who were stationed at or near the junction of Prince's Street and Sackville Street on Sunday, the 31st August. In the course of the re-examination of Inspector Lalor a charge was erroneously made by Mr. Handel Booth against Mr. Powell of suppressing a material portion of a deposition made by Inspector Lalor. This led to an altercation between Mr. Handel Booth and Mr. Powell, in the course of which an offensive expression was addressed by Mr. Powell to Mr. Handel Booth, who thereupon withdrew; and we regret that we had not the advantage of hearing his evidence or receiving further assistance from him.

RIOT IN CORNMARKEr, THOMAS STREET, AND ADJOINING STREETS, SUNDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1913.

This riot commenced about 5 o'clock on Sunday evening, the 31st August, and continued from time to time up to 10 or 11 o'clock on Sunday night. It originated in attacks by mobs, numbering from 200 to 400 persons, on the tram cars on the line from College Green to Inchicore. One of these cars proceeding from College Green to Inchicore, and guarded by three policemen, was held up near the corner of Cornmarket and High Street, about 5 o'clock p.m. by a crowd of 300 or 400 persons coming from Francis Street, and throwing stones and bottles. Two of the policemen who were guarding the tram car and three or four Metropolitan police who were stationed in High Street succeeded in putting back this crowd, notwithstanding a fusillade of stones and bottles, in the course of which every one of the police was struck and cut. In the meantime the windows of the tram car had been smashed by rioters, who had got behind the police, and two of the police who were nearest to the tram car were badly injured, one of them being knocked down with a staff, and the other getting his chin split open with a bottle. Some of the rioters were arrested, and taken with great difficulty to Chancery Lane; Inspector White, who went in front to keep back the crowd, being struck on the head, and badly cut in Back Lane. On their way back from Chancery Lane to Cornmarket the police were again assailed from the tenement houses in Nicholas Street with stones and bottles thrown from the windows of the houses. A little later in the evening another tram car coming from Inchicore to College Green, and protected by two constables, was attacked and held up by another riotous mob in High Street, throwing stones, bricks, and bottles. The mob numbered about 200, and there were only the two policemen, who were rescued from a position of imminent danger by Father Reilly, who brought them into the Presbytery, followed by about fifty of the crowd, who proceeded to smash the windows of the Presbytery, and tried to force the door. They were relieved by a party of six police from Chancery Lane, who managed to disperse the crowd. From about 5.15 p.m. until 7 p.m., owing to the presence of riotous and disorderly crowds, it was necessary to patrol the streets in the neighbourhood with six members of the Royal Irish Constabulary Troop, who were stoned by the crowd in High Street, and pelted with bricks and bottles from the windows of the houses in High Street and Francis Street. Owing to the condition of this district, it became necessary to requisition a party of thirty-five Royal Irish Constabulary from the Depot, who arrived about 6.30 p.m. About half of this body were left at Meath Street, and the remainder went on to Cornmarket and Francis Street. In Meath Street the sergeant in charge and eighteen constables were attacked by a mob of about 200 persons, who threw bricks and mineral water bottles, collected for the purpose, at the police. It was necessary to disperse the crowd by means of a baton charge, but none of the police came in contact with the crowd. A similar attack was made in Francis Street on the party of Royal Irish Constabulary, who proceeded to Cornmarket by a crowd numbering 600 or 700 persons, stones and bottles being thrown from the houses as well as from the streets. Later in the evening a portion of this last-mentioned party of police were attacked in Pimlico and the neighbouring streets; and on their way to report themselves at Chancery Lane Barracks about 10.30 p.m., the entire of this party of Royal

Irish Constabulary who had come from the Depot were fiercely attacked, and stoned by a mob of several hundred rioters in Cornmarket. A baton charge was ordered by the sergeant in command, but his men do not seem to have come in contact with the crowd.

This riot, which lasted for several hours, commenced by attacks on the cars of the Tramway Company, which were followed later in the evening by organised attacks on the police in different parts of the district. Eleven policemen were injured—some of them very seriously—they behaved with courage and forbearance, and there was no use of excessive or unnecessary force in dealing with the rioters. Except in the case of rioters who were actually arrested, the police do not seem to have come into contact with the crowds.

RIOT IN AUNGIER STREET, REDMOND'S HILL, CUFFE STREET, AND ADJOINING DISTRICT ON SUNDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1913.

This riot commenced with an attack, a little before 5 p.m., on one of the outgoing cars of the Tramway Company. The attack came from a crowd which had collected opposite the Transport Workers Union Hall in Aungier Street. Two members of this crowd attacked and struck the motorman with sticks. The motorman was obliged to leave his car, and defend himself with his driving handle. In the meantime the crowd, which had increased to 300 persons, smashed the windows of the car. There were no police in the immediate neighbourhood at the moment, but two men of the "B" Division were quickly on the scene, and one of them (145 B) went to the rescue of the motorman. He was at once knocked down, and brutally assaulted while on the ground, and the motorman in attempting to get back to his car was struck with a bottle on the back of the head, and so severely injured that he had to be removed to Mercer's Hospital. One of the policemen went for reinforcements, which soon afterwards arrived, and the crowd was dispersed. Constable 145 B was so severely injured that he had to go off duty for three weeks.

About the same time an in-coming tram car was held up at the same place by the same crowd who wrecked the car, knocked the conductor down, and took his leather bag containing about £3 in money. The conductor was so badly injured that he had to be taken to hospital, and remained there for ten days. The party of police who were sent as reinforcements to the scene of this riot, consisting of a sergeant and nine men, were received with volleys of stones and bottles from the crowd in Aungier Street. The sergeant ordered his men to draw their batons, and clear the street. As soon as the crowd saw the batons drawn they ran up the street and into Great Longford Street, where some of them entered the houses, from which they attacked the police with stones and bottles. An arrest was effected in this street. After taking the prisoner to Chancery Lane this body of police, consisting of ten men, were attacked by four converging crowds, which came out of Longford Street, Whitefriar Place, Aungier Street, and York Street. These crowds, numbering in all over 500 persons, formed near the Church in Whitefriar Street, and again fiercely attacked the police with stones and bottles. The police charged this crowd, and drove them through Bishop Street to Kevin Street. During this charge stones and bottles were freely flung at the police, and a prisoner arrested in Kevin Street was found to have four stones in his pockets. After bringing this prisoner to Kevin Street Barracks, the party of police returned through Lower Kevin Street, and at the crossing of this street and Redmond's Hill and Wexford Street they were again surrounded and attacked by converging crowds, numbering several hundreds. The sergeant who had been doing duty in this district for twenty-five years then stepped out from his men, and appealed to the crowd not to stone the police. He was received with a volley of stones, and was struck four times. In order to effect their escape the sergeant and his men then charged the crowd in Cuffe Street, and were followed by the other crowds down that street, from the houses of which the police were stoned, until they reached Stephen's Green, where they got into a motor car and returned to barracks for reinforcements. A further party of fifteen police were sent from College Street to assist in restoring order, and Inspector Chase and six mounted troopers were despatched to Aungier Street. Both these bodies of police were attacked by a crowd of between 200 and 300 rioters outside the Transport Workers Union Hall in Aungier Street with stones, bricks and bottles, and a number of the men and horses were struck. The rioters were dispersed by means of baton charges, and the streets in the district were clear and quiet about 7 o'clock.

No unnecessary or excessive force was used by the police in dealing with this dangerous riot, in which three policemen were severely injured, and a large quantity of property was destroyed.

RIOT AT INCHICORE ON SUNDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1913.

Between 5 and 6 o'clock on Sunday evening a crowd of about 150 persons assembled near the Tramway Depot at Inchicore, and were hissing and booing at the driver and conductor of one of the cars. One of the ringleaders of the crowd being warned to go away, refused to do so, and called upon the crowd to wreck the car. He was then arrested by Sergeant Kincaid (12 A) who, with two constables, was on duty at the terminus of the tramway. He resisted arrest, but was secured with the assistance of the constables, and was then taken in the direction of the Kilmaham Police Station. At the Emmet Hall, which is between Richmond Barracks and Kilmaham Police station, and is the meeting place of the Transport Workers Union, a crowd of 150 persons was collected. As soon as the three police with their prisoner came near the Emmet Hall, a crowd of people came out of the Hall, and, with the people already in the street, came towards and met the police, and demanded the release of the prisoner. The crowd then commenced to throw stones, and bricks, and other missiles. The sergeant ordered his two men to draw their batons, and keeping the prisoner between them, with the sergeant behind them, they tried to get their prisoner past the crowd. The crowd closed in on them; the prisoner was rescued, and the police got separated. Sergeant Kincaid was surrounded, knocked down, kicked, and left unconscious on the ground. He was brought into a neighbouring house by a woman and her family, and only regained consciousness after two hours. He was one month in hospital, and another month off duty as the result of the injuries he received. One of the two constables (Crowley, R.I.C.) was also surrounded, knocked down twice, and kicked each time while on the ground. He escaped with difficulty into the Richmond Barracks, and was confined to hospital for five days. The other constable (Denis McMahon) was struck with a heavy stone on the head while still holding the prisoner, staggered back, and was knocked down, and kicked by the crowd several times about the head and body. He fought his way back to his comrades, but was again knocked down and kicked by the crowd, and lost his helmet and baton. He escaped with his life into a house—the door of which was open, followed by the crowd, who demanded that he should be put out again. The owner of the house, who was in terror of the mob, let him out by the back door, and he got into another house by the back way. He was severely injured, and on the sick list for some days. It is some satisfaction to be able to state that the prisoner was re-arrested nine days afterwards at Clonsilla.

A little later in the evening, about 6.30 p.m., a crowd of about 400 persons collected outside the Emmet Hall for the purpose of hearing an address from one of the windows of the Hall. The speaker told the crowd that the women and children should clear away, and referred to the arrest of the prisoner earlier in the evening, and said "the police were sorry for it now." During the speech two tram cars coming out from the City with broken windows and protected by a sergeant and five constables, reached the outskirts of the crowd. Inspector Wilkinson who, with a party of about ten constables, was already in the immediate neighbourhood of the Emmet Hall, ordered his men to clear the way for the trams. This order provoked the hostility of the crowd, who declined to clear the way. The constables then drew their batons and tried to make a way for the tram cars. Many of the crowd were armed with sticks, and stones were coming freely from all directions, some of them from the windows of the Emmet Hall. In these circumstances a number of police entered the Emmet Hall, and cleared it out, the people who were there rushing out by the back. At the same time a detachment of the West Kent Regiment, who had been sent to the assistance of the police by Mr. Watem (Special Magistrate) arrived on the scene, and escorted the tram cars to the Depot, and the police were able to disperse the crowd. This is the only occasion on which the services of the military were requisitioned, and their services were confined to escorting the tram cars from the Emmet Hall to the Tramway Depot, so that they did not come into contact with the crowd.

There was no use of unnecessary or excessive force by the police in dealing with this riot, during which six policemen were injured—three of them very severely.

In connection with this riot a complaint was made to us by Mr. Daniel K. O'Sullivan, of No. 88 Emmet Road, of the conduct of certain of the police who were engaged in its suppression. Mr. O'Sullivan appeared before us on Monday, the 19th January, 1914, and gave his evidence fully, and was cross-examined by Mr. Powell on behalf of the police. Mr. O'Sullivan made two distinct charges, and in each case he made the charge against an individual constable.

The first charge was that a particular constable, whom he designated as "88 A," had, on the 31st August, 1913, broken a number of panes of glass (which he put at fifteen) in the windows of six cottages of his in Murray's Lane. Murray's Lane runs out of Emmet

Road on the opposite side of the road from, and almost opposite to, Emmet Hall. Mr. O'Sullivan stated that he himself saw a particular constable, whom he could not himself identify, break "five or six or perhaps nine" panes with his baton. His reason for bringing the charge against 88 A was that his tenants of the cottages told him that it was 88 A who broke the glass. None of these tenants were produced before us, and it was proved that earlier in the day a riotous mob had been chased by the police down Murray's Lane, and had thrown stones back at the police. Constable 88 A (Michael Hannon) was called and examined before us on the 27th January, 1914, and positively denied having broken any glass in Murray's Lane, and stated that he did not pursue any rioters into the lane on the 31st August. There is no evidence whatever identifying Constable 88 A with this charge.

The second charge made by Mr. O'Sullivan was a charge of assault against Constable 179 A (James Goodwin). The circumstances under which Mr. O'Sullivan alleged that this assault was committed are the following:—After the disturbance in Emmet Road had ceased he was standing at his own front gate talking to his next door neighbour, and observing a number of constables standing near, he approached them for the purpose of complaining of the injury to his property, and he stated that in the course of the conversation which he had with one of the constables, another of them, whom he identified as 179 A, stepped forward and struck him with all his force on the left jaw, staggering him, and knocking off his hat. Mr. O'Sullivan stated that at the time of the alleged assault he and all the constables were standing in a ring, and that none of them was more than two yards from any other. He also stated that his neighbour (referred to above) and his own children saw the policeman strike him. Neither his neighbour nor any of his own children were produced in support of Mr. O'Sullivan's case.

Constable Goodwin, 179 A, was called before us on the 27th January, 1914, and positively denied having struck Mr. O'Sullivan. Each of the constables who were standing at the time of the alleged assault in the way described by Mr. O'Sullivan was also called before us, and each of them positively denied that the assault was committed.

As Mr. O'Sullivan identifies the constable against whom he makes his charge of assault, a civil remedy is open to him, and even if the investigation of the charge is within the terms of our warrant, we think it better not to prejudge the question by deciding it one way or the other.

CORPORATION STREET AND BUILDINGS, SUNDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1913.

Evidence was also given before us relating to riots which were alleged to have taken place in Corporation Street, and in Corporation Buildings, on the night of Saturday, the 30th August and the afternoon of Sunday, the 31st August. Mr. Rice, solicitor to the Corporation of Dublin, appeared on behalf of the Housing Committee of the Corporation, and called evidence for the purpose of establishing that not only was wilful injury inflicted by members of the police on the property of the Corporation and their tenants, but that excessive and unnecessary violence was in some cases used to such tenants.

The buildings referred to are made up of two large blocks, the property of the Corporation of Dublin, on the east side of Corporation Street, and separated from each other by an open space known as Corporation Place. On entering from Corporation Street into Corporation Place the blocks lie to the left and right of Corporation Place, the block to the left being known as the North Block and that to the right as the South Block. The buildings consist of a ground floor and four storeys above, and on each storey there is a balcony along the front of the buildings, from which hallways open, and in each hallway there are four dwellings. Access is obtained to the balconies by a number of staircases. In the north block there are 216 dwellings, and in the south block 100. These dwellings were erected by the Corporation of Dublin after clearing away a large number of tenement houses, with the object of providing sanitary dwellings, and they are occupied by a population of over one thousand persons, all of whom belong to the poorer classes.

It was alleged before us on the part of the police that riotous attacks were made upon them in Corporation Street by crowds of people, and that these attacks were joined in by the inhabitants of the buildings, who threw from the balconies where they abutted on Corporation Street large quantities of stones, bottles, and other missiles, with the result that it became necessary on Sunday, the 31st of August, to enter the buildings during the afternoon with a view to attempting the arrest of some of the rioters.

It was further alleged by the police witnesses that any damage to property was necessarily caused in the course of this entry, and was not wilful damage. Complaints were made on behalf of the Corporation and their tenants that on Saturday night, the 30th August, a number of constables entered the buildings and did some damage to windows,

but the substantial case made by the witnesses related to Sunday, the 31st August. It was charged against the police that on this day at least two parties had entered and been guilty of considerable violence to the tenants and their property.

Owing to the construction of these buildings they afforded a ready shelter for disorderly persons who were flying from the police, as there are a number of entrances from the adjoining streets, and once access was had to the balconies the police in the streets below could be assailed very effectively. On the night of Saturday, the 30th August, a riotous mob who were driven from Talbot Street through Corporation Street took refuge in the buildings, and drove back a number of police by the shower of missiles which they discharged from the balconies. It was impossible for the police to force an entry to the balconies owing to the darkness. Later on the same night an attack was made from some of the balconies on a body of police who were returning from duty, and the men were struck with stones and jam pots.

On Sunday, the 31st August, on at least two occasions during the day, attacks of a similar character had been made on a number of police who passed through Corporation Street, and in the course of the evening two bodies of police, consisting of a sergeant and ten men in one case, and of a sergeant and thirteen men in the other case, were sent to Corporation Street for the purpose of keeping order. With a view to effecting the arrest of rioters who were engaged in throwing stones at the police each of these bodies entered the buildings at a different time during the evening.

Having carefully considered the evidence given on both sides, we came to the conclusion that the damage done on the night of Saturday, involving as it did only the breaking of a few windows, was not of a serious character, and we were not satisfied as to the identity of the constables who were alleged to have been guilty of it.

As regards the Sunday, however, we are of opinion that in a number of instances wilful damage was done to the property of the Corporation and their tenants, and we are also of opinion that assaults were committed on some of the occupants of the buildings for which there was no justification whatever. On this day a number of rioters who fled from the police had taken refuge on the balconies of the Corporation Buildings, and they, assisted by many of the occupants, made an attack on a body of police, who proceeded to enter the buildings for the purpose of dispersing the rioters. With this object they ascended to the balconies, and when there entered a large number of dwellings—some thirty—forcibly. In many of the dwellings damage was caused by the force used on entering, but in some cases after the entry was made and when no rioters were found inside, some constables proceeded to destroy the property of the tenants. Glass was broken, delfs, lamps, and pictures. In some instances furniture and other articles were damaged, and, considering the means of the occupants, substantial damage was inflicted on them. The windows in some houses were also broken.

We make every allowance for the excitement under which the constables were labouring owing to the attacks made upon them from the Buildings, but in our opinion in the case of eight or ten dwellings wilful damage was done without justification.

The rooms in which the principal damage was caused were seen on Tuesday, 2nd September, by Mr. Eyre, the City Treasurer, and his evidence fully corroborated the statements of the tenants of the dwellings, and was fully accepted by us, as was the evidence of Miss Harrison, who saw some of the dwellings. We are also satisfied that in some instances assaults were committed without just cause.

In the case of a man called Michael Whelan, who seemed to us a respectable working man, living in No. 28 D, it was proved that he, his wife, a man named Bernard Morrissey, Morrissey's daughter, and two other persons were sitting in the room. The door was broken in, a number of constables entered, and Whelan was violently assaulted. As a result of this assault one of the bones of his arm was broken. Bernard Morrissey was also beaten with batons, and sustained two scalp wounds, and also injuries on other parts of his body. In the course of the struggle injuries were also inflicted on other inmates of the room. It was not alleged that Whelan or Morrissey had taken part in a riot, but the assaults were denied. We believed the evidence of Whelan and Morrissey, against whose characters no charge was made, and in our opinion they were very seriously assaulted without cause. It seemed to us that a number of the constables lost control over themselves owing to the excitement of the riot, and inflicted the injuries we have described.

Complaint was made also as to injuries inflicted on a Mrs. Byrne in the south block of buildings. In this case it was proved that both her husband and her son had thrown stones at the police, who followed them to their dwelling and arrested them. They were subsequently convicted and sentenced. We are satisfied that the injuries which Mrs. Byrne received, and which were described by Miss Harrison, a member of the Corporation, were sustained by her during the scuffle which took place during the arrest of the

two prisoners. We wish to say that so far as the stone throwing that took place from the balconies is concerned, no responsibility attaches to any servant of the Corporation. Many of the persons engaged in the disorder had rushed into the buildings, which are quite open to the public, and so far as was proved to us every help was given to the police by the Corporation officials.

At the close of the evidence given at the Corporation Buildings a Mrs. Thompson gave evidence as to an occurrence at the house No. 2 Foley Street, where she resided. The lady was a widow, whose husband had recently died, and she alleged that on the night of Saturday, the 30th, hearing a loud noise at the hall door, she left her room on the first floor, taking her child with her, and went to the landing on the floor overhead. While there a number of constables rushed into the house and, finding light in her room, entered it, and proceeded to wreck the furniture in the room—the pictures on the walls and the delf. It was impossible to trace the constables who were alleged to have entered this house, but we believe the evidence of this witness, and are satisfied that in this case also damage was done without any just cause.

GLOUCESTER STREET, WATERFORD STREET, GARDINER STREET, AND PARNELL STREET, 31st AUGUST, 1913.

About 5 p.m. on Sunday evening, the 31st August, extensive rioting prevailed in the district around Gardiner Street, and crowds assembled in that street, and at the corners of streets communicating therewith. In the first instance the police came into contact with the rioters at the corner of Gloucester Street, and dispersed them after being met with a fusillade of stones and bricks, in many cases thrown from houses. A number of troopers were engaged in keeping the crowd moving, but their efforts were greatly hampered by the persistent stone throwing that took place from nearly all the houses in the streets through which they passed. In some of the streets, notably Cumberland Street and Waterford Street, numbers of men were stationed on the roofs of houses, and stripped off slates and tiles for the purpose of throwing them into the street at passing constables. In one case in Waterford Street seven men were discovered on the roof of a house.

Constable Sutton (125 C) was struck in this street with a tile thrown from a roof, and many other constables sustained injuries of a similar kind.

The troopers engaged in patrolling these streets were all hit, some more than once, during the riot, and when arrests had been effected of persons who had been taken on the roofs of houses the escort conveying the prisoners was followed towards the Police Station and freely stoned.

A number of these prisoners were afterwards convicted and sentenced.

This disturbance was spread over the entire district, and the serious feature of it was the readiness of the occupants of the various tenement houses to shelter escaping rioters and to join with them in attacking the police from the upper stories of many houses. Some baton charges were made, but as a rule these were useless, as the crowds fled before the police and took refuge in houses which were open to receive them.

RIOT IN MARY STREET, CHANCERY STREET AND ALONG THE NORTHERN QUAYS FROM CHANCERY PLACE TO QUEEN STREET, ON SUNDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1913.

From about 5 p.m. till 6.30 p.m. the Northern Quays from Chancery Place up to Queen Street, and the streets abutting on these quays, were in a constant state of riot and disorder. Some of the crowds who took part in this disturbance had collected owing to an incident which occurred in Mary Street. A sergeant and two constables of the D Division, on their way from Green Street to Sackville Street between 4 and 5 p.m., came upon a crowd in Mary Street, near the corner of Stafford Street, who were stoning a party of police marching towards Sackville Street. They arrested one of the ringleaders who was inciting the mob to attack the police, and took him to the Bridewell behind the Four Courts. While on their way they were followed by the crowd through Mary's Lane, Meehan's Lane, and Chancery Street, and were pelted with bricks, bottles, and stones all the way to the Bridewell—some of the crowd venturing into the Bridewell yard. Before they could leave the Bridewell the sergeant and his two men had to obtain reinforcements from Green Street, and having done so they dispersed this crowd in the direction of Inns Quay and the bridge at Chancery Place, where they re-assembled, and again attacked the police with stones and bottles. One of the police was struck with a bottle, and the man

who threw it was pursued and arrested. Later on several tram cars were held up at Church Street and Queen Street bridges by crowds who dispersed up side streets when the police came near them, and re-assembled at some other part of the quays. As soon as the trams ceased running the crowd dispersed and quiet was restored.

No unnecessary or excessive force was used by the police in dealing with the disturbances in this district, during which twelve of the police were injured.

RIOT ON GEORGE'S QUAY AND MOSS STREET, ON SUNDAY,

31st AUGUST, 1913.

About 8 o'clock on Sunday evening it was reported to the police stationed at the south side of O'Connell Bridge that there was rioting on George's Quay and in Moss Street. Sergeant O'Donnell and a party of ten constables were sent by Chief Superintendent Dunoe to try and suppress it. They found on their arrival at George's Quay that a large fire had been lit on the street near the corner of Moss Street. This fire was surrounded by a collection of loose bricks. The crowd near the fire attacked the police with these bricks and with broken sewer pipes, and they were attacked from the houses with bottles and jampots. Sergeant O'Donnell ordered his men to draw their batons and disperse the crowd, and they dispersed the crowd as far as the corner of Moss Street, where the police were again attacked from the houses and in the street, and from a boat or boats on the river. As the crowd numbered over four hundred, the sergeant, seeing that the lives of his men were in danger, brought them back to College Street Station, where he reported the matter to the Superintendent, who ordered out Sergeant Hurley and ten picked men as a reinforcement. Sergeant O'Donnell and his men returned to Moss Street by Townsend Street, and Sergeant Hurley and his men went to Moss Street by Burgh Quay and George's Quay. When Sergeant O'Donnell and party of police got within twenty yards of Moss Street (at the corner of Townsend Street and Moss Street) they were attacked by a crowd of two hundred rioters on the street, and also with bottles, stones, and bricks, from the windows and hall doors of the houses in Moss Street. From No. 8 Moss Street in particular missiles were thrown from the hall door, and from the top storey windows, and three of the police were severely injured, one being struck in the mouth, another on the back of the head with a stone, and another on the side of the head with a brick. As one of the persons assaulting the police from 8 Moss Street was identified, the police effected an entrance into the house and made two arrests. Soon after this the crowd in Moss Street was completely dispersed, and quiet was restored about 10 o'clock.

In the meantime, Sergeant Hurley and his party of constables had arrived near and been attacked by a fusillade of bricks from the fire which had been lit on George's Quay. They dispersed this attacking crowd down the quays, but never got in touch with them, being themselves stoned by the crowd they were pursuing, and also from a boat in the river. This riotous crowd seems to have reformed many times, and was not finally dispersed for nearly an hour.

The mob with which the police had to deal in this district seems to have been characterized by great violence and lawlessness, and seven policemen were injured during the riots in Moss Street and on George's Quay on this evening.

There was no unnecessary or excessive force used by the police in dealing with this riot.

RIOT AT REDMOND'S HILL AND NEIGHBOURING STREETS ON MONDAY,

1st SEPTEMBER, 1913.

This riot was really a continuation of the rioting of the previous evening in the same neighbourhood. During the afternoon of Monday, the 1st September, between the hours of 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. there had been a good deal of desultory stone throwing at the police by crowds which gathered at Redmond's Hill, Digges Street, Aungier Street, Cuffe Street, Whitefriar Street, and Peter Street, but the serious rioting did not begin until after dark. From 9 p.m. until nearly midnight Redmond's Hill, Wexford Street, and Camden Street and the neighbouring side streets were a scene of continuous and dangerous rioting. The crowds collected at the corners of the side streets leading off the main thoroughfares, and kept up a continuous fire of missiles at any body of police who were within range. When the police were out of range, the missiles were directed at shop windows, with the result that a very large quantity of glass was broken. As soon as the police charged any particular mob, it disappeared up or down one of the side streets, and when the police followed in pursuit they were fusilladed with deadly missiles from the windows and even the roofs of houses. At no time were the police actually in contact with any of the many riotous

crowds. For more than two hours during this riot Redmond's Hill, Wexford Street, and Camden Street—main thoroughfares of the City—were in possession of the mob, and a deliberate, but fortunately unsuccessful, attempt was made to drive the police off the streets.

This riot was remarkable not only for the ferocity of the attacks upon the police, but also for the wanton destruction of property and the looting of some shops.

There was no use of unnecessary or excessive force by the police in dealing with this riot.

RIOT IN CAPEL STREET AND ADJOINING STREETS ON MONDAY.

THE 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1913.

At 9.30 p.m. on Monday, the 1st September, Inspector Lowry, with a sergeant and ten men, on their way from Henry Place to Mary Street, were attacked in Capel Street by a mob of 200 to 300 persons, throwing stones, bottles, and pieces of iron. Several of the police were struck. The Inspector deemed it necessary to charge, and they were dispersed up Mary Street, an arrest being made in that street. After bringing the prisoner to the Bowdell the same party of police returned to Capel Street, and found that the mob had re-assembled at the corner of Mary Street. Missiles were again thrown by the crowd, and several shop windows were broken in Capel Street. It became necessary to charge the crowd again, and this time they were dispersed down Capel Street, and over Grattan Bridge, and along Ormond Quay. Later on it was reported to Inspector Lowry that four constables of the Royal Irish Constabulary were being attacked in Capel Street, and on returning there he and his party found the four constables, who were returning to their lodgings at the Hibernian Hotel in Capel Street, surrounded just opposite the hotel by an angry crowd of from 150 to 200 rioters, who were attacking them with stones and bottles. The conduct of the mob was exceptionally brutal, and the position of the four constables was one of extreme danger. Except for the timely arrival of Inspector Lowry and his men, it is difficult to see how they could have escaped with their lives. The mob who were attacking the four constables were driven by the relieving party up Capel Street as far as Little Britain Street, and were there dispersed about 10 o'clock. This was a fierce riot, during which eighteen of the police were injured, and their lives were constantly in danger. In all the instances during this riot in which the police charged the mob, the charge was absolutely necessary, and no unnecessary or excessive force was used by the police in the suppression of the disturbance.

RIOT AT TOWNSEND STREET, SUNDAY, 21ST SEPTEMBER, 1913.

On Sunday, 21st September, about 5.30 p.m. a procession, estimated to contain several thousand people, formed in Beresford Place and the neighbourhood, and proceeded to march through the City. Chief Superintendent Dunne, with Superintendent Kiernan and Inspector Bannon, and sixty sergeants and constables, accompanied the procession, which was led by a crowd of roughs, many of whom were under the influence of drink. The Chief Superintendent, who has forty years' experience in the Dublin Metropolitan Police force, stated that he had never seen such an assemblage of the disorderly class. In the course of their march tram cars were attacked and wrecked, to the number of nine in all, and the members of the crowd behaved in a very disorderly fashion. Stones were thrown at different times during their progress, but it was not until Townsend Street was reached that the riot assumed a really serious aspect. When the procession reached this street an organised attempt was made by its members to overwhelm the force which had accompanied them. Showers of stones and bottles were thrown, in many instances from the houses, and a hand to hand struggle went on here for twenty minutes between the police and rioters. Some of the horses belonging to the troopers were knocked down; the men themselves received severe injuries, and in many instances their lives were only saved by their helmets, which were broken by stones and missiles. Pieces of concrete, iron nuts, and bricks were freely thrown. Batons were drawn and used at several points in the street, but for some time even this measure had not the effect of dispersing the crowd or restoring order. Some of the constables were knocked down, and rendered unconscious, and in one instance a member of the Dublin Metropolitan Police was wounded by a knife. The total number of constables injured in this riot was thirty-six. The entire length of the street for nearly half an hour was a scene of riot, and the persistent throwing of missiles from houses added greatly to the dangers incurred by officers and men.

This was, in our opinion, the most determined and disgraceful riot that took place in Dublin during the disturbances, and any measures taken by the police for the purpose of suppressing it were amply justified. It was carefully planned, and in the case of many of the houses missiles had been provided some time before for use against the police.

We desire to report, in conclusion, that in our opinion the officers and men of the Dublin Metropolitan Police and the Royal Irish Constabulary, as a whole, discharged their duties throughout this trying period with conspicuous courage and patience. They were exposed to great dangers, and treated with great brutality, and in many instances we were satisfied that, though suffering from injuries which would have fully justified their absence from duty, they remained at their posts under great difficulties until peace had been restored. The total number of constables injured during these riots exceeded 200. Notwithstanding the extent and violence of the disturbances, in no case, save one, and then only for the purpose of protecting two tram cars, was the assistance of the military called for. The riots were dealt with and suppressed by the police, and by the police alone, and had it not been for their zeal and determination, the outburst of lawlessness which took place in the months of August and September would have assumed more serious proportions, and been attended with far more evil results.

We have the honour to remain,

Your Excellency's obedient servants

DENIS S. HENRY.

S. L. BROWN.

THOMAS PATTON,

Secretary

9th February, 1914.

